

6. (Amended) The isolated polynucleotide molecule of claim 1, wherein the polynucleotide encodes a polypeptide that contains motifs 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 spaced apart from N-terminus to C-terminus in a configuration M1-{25-26}-M2-{15}-M3-{11}-M4-{34-36}-M5[.],

wherein M1 is "motif 1," a sequence of amino acids as shown in amino acids 118 to 120 of SEQ ID NO:2,

M2 is "motif 2," a sequence of amino acids as shown in amino acids 146 to 148 of SEQ ID NO:2,

M3 is "motif 3," a sequence of amino acids as shown in amino acids 164 to 166 of SEQ ID NO:2,

M4 is "motif 4," a sequence of amino acids as shown in amino acids 178 to 180 of SEQ ID NO:2, and

M5 is "motif 5," a sequence of amino acids as shown in amino acids 215 to 217 of SEQ ID NO:2, and

{#} denotes the number of amino acids between the motifs.

In claim 7, line 4 before "polypeptide", please delete "z219a" therefrom.

10. (Amended) A DNA construct encoding a fusion protein, the DNA construct comprising:

a first DNA segment encoding a polypeptide [that is at least 90% identical to] comprising a sequence of amino acid residues 1 (Met) through 25 (Gly) of SEQ ID NO:2; and

a second DNA segment encoding an additional polypeptide,

wherein the first and second DNA segments are connected in-frame; and encode the fusion protein.

Please add the following claims:

--22. An expression vector comprising the following operably linked elements:

a transcription promoter;
a DNA segment encoding a polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence as shown in SEQ ID NO:2 from amino acid number 23 (Phe), to amino acid number 223 (Phe);
and
a transcription terminator;
wherein the promoter is operably linked to the DNA segment, and the DNA segment is operably linked to the transcription terminator.

93
23. An expression vector according to claim 22, further comprising a secretory signal sequence operably linked to the DNA segment.

sub B3
24. A cultured cell into which has been introduced an expression vector according to claim 22, wherein the cell expresses the polypeptide encoded by the DNA segment.

25. A method of producing a polypeptide comprising:
culturing a cell according to claim 24; and
isolating the polypeptide produced by the cell.--

Add C1
REMARKS

Reconsideration in view of the above amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested. Claims 1-10 and 15 are pending in the instant application, with claims 1, 2, 7, and 10 being in independent form. Claims 11-14 and 16-21 have been withdrawn from consideration. The amendments to claim 4 were made to simplify the issues, and to provide an independent claim of intermediate scope. The Amendments to claims 5, 6, 7 and 10 were made to address the Examiner's formal issues under 35 U.S.C. §112. Claims 22-25 were added to provide claims of varying scope to encompass preferred embodiments of the invention. Claim 15 was canceled, and re-written as claim 25 to simplify the issues and to